CLAIMS

1.   A method of delivering an electronic license and unlocking electronic files for the purpose of using software stored under the control of a user, said method comprising the steps of:

accepting from a user a request for a key to unlock specific ones of said stored code;

processing accepted ones of said requests; said processing including obtaining an electronic delivery address for said user and verifying the availability to said user of said requested key; and

electronically delivering to said requesting user the address of at least one network access destination, such that said requesting user can electronically access said destination to obtain from said destination a code for unlocking said specific electronic file.

2.   The method of claim 1 wherein said accepting step can be accomplished by several different parties.

3.   The method of claim 1 wherein said processing step can be accomplished by several different parties.

4.   The method of claim 1 wherein said delivered code is also unique to a particular user and wherein said destination is a specific URL, said URL delivered to said user by said electronically delivering step.

5.   The method of claim 1 wherein said delivered code is unique to one or more particular machines on which said electronic files may reside.

6.   The method of claim 1 wherein said delivered code is unique to a particular storage medium.

7.   The method of claim 1 wherein said delivered code is unique to a particular storage location.

8.   A system for allowing a user to access an electronic file stored at said user's location, said system comprising:

an ordering system for interacting electronically with a user, said ordering system arranged to provide pricing information to said interacting user; said ordering system further arranged to receive from said electronically interacting user an electronic address of said interacting user;

an order delivery system interacting electronically with said ordering system; said delivery system arranged to deliver products ordered by said end-user; and further arranged to substitute electronic information in place of the actual product ordered, said electronic information operable for allowing said end-user to enable selected portions of said stored electronic file; and

a delivery engine for controlling the electronic delivery of said electronic information to said user, in accordance with received ones of said electronic addresses.

9.   The system of claim 8 wherein said order delivery system is arranged to deliver actual products as well as said electronic information dependant in part upon interactions between said user and said ordering system.

10.   The system of claim 8 wherein said electronic file is a plurality of files.

11.   The system of claim 10 wherein said electronic information is specific to particular ones of said plurality of files.

12.   The system of claim 8 wherein said electronic information is a web address which allows a user to access said address to obtain a key for unlocking at least a portion of said stored electronic files.

13.   A method of delivering software, said method comprising the steps of:

delivering a plurality of different software applications to an end-user for storage on a server shared by a plurality of said users;

locking at least some of said loaded applications such that each said locked application can only be successfully utilized by a requesting one of said end-users under control of a code delivered to said requesting end-user by a third party; and

electronically delivering said code to a requesting end-user.

14.   The method of claim 13 wherein said electronically delivering step can be accomplished based on a request from said requesting end-user, said request being initially directed to one of several different parties.

15.   The method of claim 13 wherein said electronically delivering step can be accomplished from several different parties with respect to different applications.

16.   The method of claim 13 wherein said electronically delivering step can be accomplished from several different parties with respect to the same applications.

17.   The method of claim 13 wherein said electronically delivering step includes the step of electronically communicating a unique address accessible to said end-user, said unique address containing codes specific to one or more of said applications.

18.   The method of claim 13 wherein said code is unique to a particular end-user.

19.   The method of claim 13 wherein said code is unique to one or more particular machines on which said applications may reside.

20.   The method of claim 13 wherein said code is unique to a particular storage medium and obtained by said end-user by said user electronically accessing a remote location, the location of said remote location communicated to said end-user as part of said electronically delivering step.